

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
(Attorney Docket No.: 109878.124)

PATENTS 2173
JFL

Applicant(s): Ferrari, et al.
Serial No.: 09/961,131
Filed: September 21, 2001
For: SCALABLE HIERARCHICAL DATA-DRIVEN NAVIGATION
SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR INFORMATION RETRIEVAL
Group Art Unit: 2173
Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

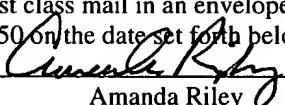
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date set forth below.

8/24/04

Date


Amanda Riley

Amanda Riley

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Commissioner:

Enclosed for filing in the above-identified patent application are the following documents:

- 1.) Seventh Information Disclosure Statement;
- 2.) Form PTO-1449, including 7 documents; and
- 3.) Return Postcard.

Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment in connection with this matter to Deposit account No. 08-0219.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: August 24, 2004


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Attorney for Applicants

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PATENT

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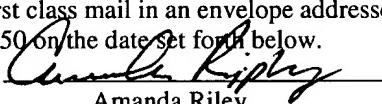
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SEVENTH INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner:

Applicants and their attorney are aware of the following publications and information listed on the attached PTO Form 1449, and in accordance with 37 CFR §1.97 hereby submit these documents for the Examiner's consideration.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97 (b)(3), Applicants hereby make of record the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449.

It is respectfully requested that the information above be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application and that the publications be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom. In this regard, it is requested that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 with the next Patent Office Communication.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made and does not constitute an admission that the listed documents are material to patentability or that the listed documents are prior art.

09/961,131
Ferrari, et al.

If it should be determined that any of the listed documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits and is therefore submitted as both timely and proper; therefore, no fees are believed to be due.

The Commissioner, however, is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0219.

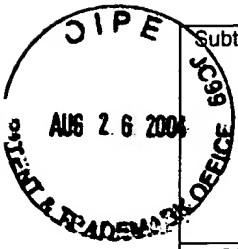
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| Subt. Form PTO-1449 | | | | Docket Number 109878.124 | Application Number 09/961,131 |
| | | | | Applicant Ferrari, et al. | |
| | | | | Filing Date September 21, 2001 | Group Art Unit 2773 |
| Sheet | 1 | OF | 1 | | |

U.S. Patent Documents

| EXAMINER INITIAL | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
|------------------|-----------------|----------|-----------------|-------|----------|----------------------------|
| | US2002/0083039 | 6/27/02 | Ferrari, et al. | 707 | 1 | 10/31/02 |
| | US2002/0095405 | 7/18/02 | Fujiwara | 707 | 3 | 1/18/01 |
| | 6,226,745 | 5/1/01 | Wiederhold | 713 | 200 | |
| | 6,466,918 | 10/15/02 | Spiegel, et al | 705 | 27 | |
| | 6,266,649 | 7/24/01 | Linden, et al. | 705 | 26 | |

Foreign Patent Documents

| EXAMINER INITIAL | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION | |
|------------------|-----------------|---------|---------|-------|----------|-------------|----|
| | | | | | | YES | NO |
| | 0 827 063 A1 | 3/4/98 | EP | | | | |
| | 1 050 830 A2 | 11/8/00 | EP | | | | |

Other Documents (Including Author, Title, Date Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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| EXAMINER | DATE CONSIDERED |
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EXAMINER: Initial if citation is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609: Draw Line through citation if not conformance and not considered. Include copy with next communication to applicant.